



**U.S. Forest Service
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests
30 S Chiricahua Drive
Springerville, AZ 85938**

News Release

Web: www.fs.usda.gov/asnf

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Media Contact: Marta Call

928-333-6280

martaicall@fs.fed.us



Balke Fire Update

June 10, 2016

Location:

- **Alpine Ranger District**
- **1 mile northwest of Hannagan Meadow Lodge**
- **North of FSR 576**
- **West of Balke Cabin**

Discovery Date: June 7, 2016, reported at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Size: Approximately 172 acres

Percent Contained: 25%

Cause: Lightning

Growth Potential: Low – Moderate

Resources Assigned: 2 Engines, 1 Hotshot Crew, 1 Dozer, 1 Feller Buncher and 1 Skidder

Summary:

The Balke Fire started in the Wallow Fire scar near Balke Cabin. Due to a large amount of snags from the Wallow Fire it is unsafe to put fire personnel directly on the fire. Personnel have burned off control lines to keep fire within a set perimeter and to continue to provide structure protection for the historic Balke Cabin. The burning went smoothly and crews are monitoring the control lines, and mopping up perimeter edges. The fire is creeping and smoldering in heavy fuels which will help with habitat restoration and forest health objectives.

Fire Information: Further information on this incident is available on InciWeb at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4777/>, on 311 via your mobile device, landline 928.333.3412, https://twitter.com/A_SNFs and <https://www.facebook.com/apachesitgreavesnfs>

For information on smoke and your health, check out https://nmtracking.org/en/envIRON_exposure/fire-and-smoke/#xEPHT_fivemile_1329.

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